

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical pickup for high density recording and reproduction, and a reproduction signal detection method, which prevent degradation of a reproduction signal due to shot noise which occurs when a low optical power light is used to form a small light spot for high density reproduction. The optical pickup includes: a light source unit to emit a plurality of light beams, such that a plurality of light spots are formed on a same track of a recording medium; a photodetector to receive and photoelectrically convert the light beams incident through an objective lens and an optical path changer after having been reflected from the recording medium; and a reproduction signal detecting circuit to delay at least one of the detection signals output from the photodetector to remove time gaps between the detection signals, and to sum the delayed detection signal and the remaining detection signals, to detect a reproduction signal. As a result, the reproduction signal with a reduced noise component is detected.

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